April 8, 2003

Country of Origin Labeling Program -
Agricultural Marketing Service
U.S.D.A.

I am an 84 year old producer who has been in the Cattle business all of my life. I cannot understand why you people are letting the Packing Industry and retail and NCBA that are going around the Country making false statements about the cost of C.O.O.L.

Every animal that comes out of Mexico has an "M" Brand on it's jaw and every animal that comes into the United States out of Canada has a metal Identification Tag, and every bit of Beef that is shipped into this Country is labled as Country of Origin. Why would it be so much more costly to keep track of Certified angus Beef and Certified Hereford Beef, Sterling Silver Beef and all other Premium meat that the Packers now put out?

I hope you will re-think your position and keep the Producers in mind instead of the Congomorates.

Thank you for your time.

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